

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00514 141557Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 DODE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /037 W

----- 094691

R 141510Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8682

INFO AMCONGEN LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC

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SECSTATE FOR EUR/SOV; USIA FOR IEU; LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS PFOR UR US

SUBJ: SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENT

REF: A) MOSCOW 0438

B) MOSCOW 0512

C) STATE 006150

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF MFA NOTE ON SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENT, PRESS ATTACHE CHECKED STATUS OF UPI REQUEST FOR LENINGRAD CORRESPONDENT. MOSCOW BUREAU CHIEF LOUGHRAN REITERATED THAT DURING OCTOBER MOSCOW VISIT OF UPI PRESIDENT BEATON, QUESTION OF LENINGRAD CORRESPONDENT WAS DISCUSSED WITH TASS CHIEF EDITOR ZAMYATIN. AT THAT TIME ZAMYATIN TOLD BEATON THAT HE FORESAW NO PROBLEM FOR UPI IN RECEIVING PERMISSION FOR MAN IN LENINGRAD. ZAMYATIN ADDED THAT TASS WOULD EXPECT TO RECEIVE PERMISSION FOR CORRESPONDENT IN SAN FRANCISCO IN RETURN. ON DECEMBER 3, BEATON WROTE TO ZAMYATIN RESTATING HIS EARLIER PROPOSAL. NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED, TO LOUGHRAN'S KNOWLEDGE. BEATON ALSO WROTE LOUGHRAN ASKING HIS ADVICE ON NEXT STEP, TO WHICH LOUGHRAN REPLIED THAT HE WASN'T WILLING TO SACRIFICE ANYONE FROM FOUR-MAN MOSCOW BUREAU FOR LENINGRAD. NO REPLY RECEIVED FROM BEATON.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 00514 141557Z

LOUGHRAN SAID HE PERSONALLY DOES NOT BELIEVE UPI OR ANY US

BUREAU WILL HAVE LENINGRAD OFFICE IN NEAR FUTURE.

2. IN THIS LIGHT, PROPOSE EMBASSY (1) MAKE VERBAL REPLY TO MFA NON-PAPER REGARDING RELAXATION ON RESTRICTIONS IN JOURNALISTS TRAVEL, AND (2) ALSO MAKE PROPOSALS FOR MUTUAL REDUCTION OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL TRAVELLERS (AS PROPOSED MOSCOW 512), BEFORE RESPONDING TO MFA NOTE ON SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENT.

3. EMBASSY NOTES THAT MFA STATEMENT THAT THE QUESTION OF NOTE-FREE TRAVEL BETWEEN MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD "RECEIVES ITS POSITIVE DECISION ON THE BASIS OF NEW RULES ON THE MOVEMENT OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS" IS NOT ACCURATE. CONSIDERING POSSIBLE SOVIET MOVEMENT TOWARD FURTHER RELAXATION OF TRAVEL IN RESPONSE TO US ACTIONS OUTLINED IN PARA 2 ABOVE, AND SINCE UPI (OR OTHER US) CORRESPONDENT IN LENINGRAD HAS UNCERTAIN FUTURE, EMBASSY CONSIDERS DELAY IN RESPONSE TO MFA NOTE ON SAN FRANCISCO ADVISABLE.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, JOURNALISTS, TRAVEL CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW00514
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760014-0338
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760158/aaaabztj.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW 438
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENT
TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006